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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF  
CASTLE WARD

# Annual Reports

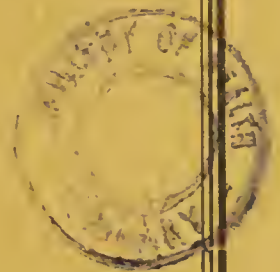
OF

THE MEDICAL OFFICER  
OF HEALTH

AND

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH  
INSPECTOR AND  
CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT

For 1959





## RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CASTLE WARD

## ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

## MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
and CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT

1959

## OFFICERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health - MADGE HOPPER, M.B., B.S., B.HY., D.P.H.

*Main Office:* SOUTH AREA HEALTH OFFICE, NEWBURN ROAD, THROCKLEY  
NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE. *Telephone :* Lemington 6-74365.

Health Housing Meat	{	Chief Public Health Inspector - E. W. STRACHAN, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
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Health MEAT	{	Additional Public Health Inspector J. TAYLOR, M.A.P.H.I.
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Health Meat	{	Additional Public Health Inspector - R. HARDY, M.A.P.H.I.
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Clerk Typist - - - - - Mrs. D. MCGREGOR

Clerk Typist (Assistant) - - - - - Mrs. J. HETHERINGTON

Rodent Operator - - - - - W. E. JOBSON

Offices - - - - - COUNCIL OFFICES, PONTELAND

Telephone - - - - - PONTELAND 2372 6

# *Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health*

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1959

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MR CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I again have the honour of presenting the Annual Report to you.

The steady increase in population continued, and the Registrar General's estimated mid-year population was 20,510, a rise of 980. During the last six years the population has risen by 5,630.

There was some change in the basic rates of the District in 1959, as shown by the following. The birth rate of 11.1 per 1,000 population was the lowest recorded for the Rural District in the last 20 years and was well below the rate for the country generally. Usually the birth rate for the district and that of the country show more approximation.

The death rate was also slightly lower than that for the previous year and lower than the national rate, excluding the considerable number of deaths in hospitals and chronic institutions in the district; there were 29 fewer deaths of residents than in the previous year.

A slight welcome decrease took place in the infant mortality rate, which was the lowest recorded for the district since 1956 and was well below the national rate.

In the individual causes of death, there was a considerable decrease among residents of the district in those due to vascular lesions of the nervous system to 12 from 32, in 1958, while deaths in this class increased among the residents of the chronic hospitals.

Deaths from malignant disease rose slightly by six to a total of twenty-seven; the increase was mainly in deaths due to malignant neoplasm of the abdominal organs.

Deaths from malignant neoplasm of the lung and bronchus showed a welcome drop to one only in 1959 from four in 1958 and seven, in 1957. as did also those from bronchitis and pneumonia, which decreased by 10.

Unfortunately, an increase took place in the number of deaths from accidents. Those caused by motor vehicles increased to five from two in the previous year and those from all other accidents to eleven from six in 1958. None of these eleven deaths were due to accidents at work. Five occurred in the chronic hospitals in persons suffering from other diseases. The number of six deaths due to accidents among residents of the district was unfortunately high, three were due to drowning, one to accidental shooting, one to multiple injuries and one to a fall.

Another unwelcome increase was the number of deaths from suicide to five from none in 1958, four of these deaths being of residents, all males between the ages of 58-76 years. The suicide rate which had decreased during the last three years certainly showed a considerable increase



No death from pulmonary tuberculosis occurred although there was one death from the non-pulmonary form. It is pleasing to report that the incidence of pulmonary tuberculosis declined during the year and no new case of non-pulmonary tubercle was notified, all in keeping with the general trend throughout the country and of this district in recent years. Certainly the value of the concentrated efforts of many years, both in the curative, preventive and environmental fields, has been felt, and the goal of total eradication becomes nearer. As was to be expected the number of inward transfers increased to twelve, double the number of primary notifications during the year. Several of the inward transfers were to the new housing estate at Newbiggin Hall built by the City of Newcastle upon Tyne. As this rehousing from the city gathers impetus, many more inward transfers will no doubt be made.

The various care and after care services are automatically extended to transferred cases as well as to all new cases.

Further visits of the mobile mass radiography unit to the district will take place in the near future.

An outbreak of Measles, mainly in the eastern residential part of the district spreading from the surrounding urban areas occurred in the spring and gradually died out by early summer. This accounted for the increased notifications of infectious diseases to a total of 304 from 92, in 1958. This increase in the incidence of measles regularly occurs every two years as the younger susceptible children come into contact with the infection, 217 cases being notified in 1959 and 9 in 1958.

Notifications of scarlet fever continued at a low level and those of whooping cough decreased to 10 from 32 in the previous year.

A further decrease occurred in the number of notifications of Sonne Dysentery. One case in a residential school in the district required very thorough investigation and surveillance, especially as two pupils and one member of the staff were found to be symptomless excretors.

There was a noticeable fall in the number of notifications of primary pneumonia, two cases only being notified compared with five in 1958 and 7 in 1957.

No notification of food poisoning or polio-myelitis was notified during the year.

The end of the year 1959 saw for the first time the commencement of housing development for overspill population from an adjoining Local Authority, in this instance the City and County of Newcastle upon Tyne. It is intended that the ultimate development will be in the region of 2,239 dwellings in the next few years.

Activities in connection with the administration of the Food and Drugs Act continued steadily throughout the year, details will be found in the appropriate section of the report. The considerable amount of work involved in meat inspection was in no way diminished.

Every endeavour is being made by the Council to implement the terms of the Clean Air Act, and in this connection, consideration is being given towards the formation of a Smoke Control Area.

I am very grateful to the Chairman, and all the members of the Health Committee, for their interest and encouragement in the work of the Department, and to Mr. Strachan, Chief Public Health Inspector, for his continued high standard of work, to Mr. Taylor and Mr. Hardy, the additional Inspectors for their sustained good work throughout the year, also to the clerical staff of the Department, and the the Clerk and other Officers of the Council for their co-operation.

The rapid growth of population has increased the volume of work of the department and it is only by good team work that it proceeds so smoothly and steadily.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

M. HOPPER,

Medical Officer of Health

## I.—VITAL STATISTICS OF THE RURAL DISTRICT

### POPULATION

The Registrar General's estimated mid-year population figure was 20,510, an increase of 960 on that of the previous year. The population has greatly increased during the last six years chiefly by development in Brunton and Melton Park and Darras Hall Estates and towards the end of the year commencing development of the Newbiggin Hall Estate, which is being built by the City and County of Newcastle upon Tyne for some of their overspill population.

### BIRTHS

A total number of 339 (156 male, 183 female) births was registered during the year, of which 7 were illegitimate. This was a slight increase on the number of births in 1958 when a total of 327 was registered of which four were illegitimate.

The birth rate (corrected for age and sex distribution) for the rural district was 11.1 per 1,000 of the population, and that for England and Wales was 16.5. This rate of 11.1 was the lowest recorded in the last 20 years, that for 1958 being 17.4. The increase of 12 in the number of total births did little to offset the increase in population in this particular year.

There was a welcome decline in the number of still births from 7 in 1958 to one only in the year under review.

The still birth rate for the district per 1,000 live and still births was 2.9. The still birth rate for this district in 1958 was 21.4 and that for England and Wales in 1959 was 20.7.

### DEATHS

The total number of deaths registered was 396 (204 male, 192 female), an increase of 36 on the figures for the previous year. This increase was chiefly in female deaths. The number of deaths of long-term residents in Hospitals and Institutions for the chronic sick in the district numbered 254. After deduction of these deaths from the total, the deaths of residents of the district was 142. In 1958 out of a total number of 360 deaths, there were 189 long-term Hospital deaths, giving a figure of 171 for the deaths of residents of the district.

The death rate (corrected for age and sex distribution) was 10.03 per 1,000 of the population compared with 11.6 for England and Wales.

There was a slight reduction in the death rate of the rural district on the figures for the previous year.

### INFANT MORTALITY

Six deaths of infants under one year of age were registered during the year compared with seven the previous year. Four of the deaths occurred during the first week of life and one after the first week and within the first month of life. The other death occurred at seven months. In regard to the five neo-natal deaths, i.e., those occurring during the first month of life, one was due to prematurity, two to congenital defects, one to atelectasis and one to uraemia. The death of the child of seven months old was due to Tuberculous Meningitis.



As has been noted in previous reports deaths of infants from infective causes are now rare and the figures for the district in 1959 conform to this pattern. Continued care of expectant mothers and young children is very necessary, in an attempt to decrease the hard core of neo-natal deaths.

The Infant Mortality Rate for the district was 17.7 per 1,000 live births and that for the country was 22.0. This rate is the lowest recorded since 1956 and is below the average for the country.

### **MATERNAL MORTALITY**

For the second year in succession, no death from maternal causes was registered. The maternal mortality rate for the country was 0.38 per 1,000 live births.

### **INDIVIDUAL CAUSES OF DEATH**

Deaths grouped in the classification of "Heart and Circulatory Diseases" numbered 164 (165), and of these 95 occurred in Hospital and Institutions for the chronic sick. This left a total of 69 deaths of residents in this grouping. These figures approximate to those of previous years.

In the classification "Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System" 125 deaths were registered, 12 being of residents of the district and 113 of institutional residents. In the previous year 99 deaths were registered in this classification, 67 being institutional residents, so that there was a considerable increase in the number of deaths of hospital and institutional residents in this group.

Deaths from "Malignant Neoplasm" decreased slightly to a total of 30, from 32 in the previous year. Three only of these deaths occurred in chronic institutions so that the number of deaths of residents showed an increase of 6 to 27, from 21 in 1958. This increase in the number of deaths of residents was mainly in the classification of "Other Malignant and Lymphatic neoplasms," although there was an increase of 2 in the number of deaths from Malignant neoplasm of the Breast.

Deaths from "Malignant Neoplasm of the Lung and Bronchus" decreased to one, from 4 (which included two institutional deaths) in 1958, and 7 (including one institutional death) in 1957.

No death from "Leukaemia" was registered.

Deaths with "Respiratory Diseases" as a primary cause of death numbered 27, of these 20 occurred in hospitals for the chronic sick and 7 among residents of the district. In the previous year, these deaths totalled 25 including 8 in the chronic hospitals and 17 of residents. A considerable decrease in deaths from respiratory diseases generally took place among residents of the district in 1959.

No deaths from "Influenza" was registered compared with two in each of the previous years.

Unfortunately, deaths from "Motor Vehicle Accidents" increased to 5 from 2 in 1958, 3 in 1957, and 4 in 1956. This was the highest number of deaths on the road from some time.

Deaths from "All other Accidents" rose steadily to a total of 11 from 6 in 1958. 4 of these deaths occurred in elderly people from 80-90 years of age resident in institutions, who were suffering from senility.



and cardio-vascular diseases and one was of a male of 19 years, resident in an Institution for mental disorders.

Among residents of the district there was one fatal accident, due to a fall.

Three cases of death from accidental drowning occurred during the year, and a boy of 8 years was drowned in the River Pont while paddling. Another fatal accident was the shooting of a male of 20 years, and another of multiple injuries accidentally sustained.

It is a regrettable feature of the vital statistics that the number of deaths from "Suicide" rose to 5 from none in the previous year.

In 1957 and 1956 there had been two deaths from suicide in each year. Of the 5 deaths in 1959, one was of an elderly man of 85 years living in a chronic institution, two were due to coal-gas poisoning, men of 70 and 57 years respectively, one was of a man of 76 years by poisoning, and another of 58 years by hanging. All the deaths from suicide were of males.

## II.—TUBERCULOSIS

One death from Tuberculosis (all forms) was registered during the year. In the previous two years there had been no death from this cause. The death in 1959 was of a baby seven months old from Tuberculous Meningitis.

The death rate for England and Wales for Tuberculosis (Respiratory) was 0.07 per 1,000 population, that for (Non-Respiratory) Tuberculosis .08, there was no death from Respiratory Tuberculosis in the Rural District. The death rate from Tuberculosis in the Rural District was 0.048

Pulmonary Tuberculosis decreased in incidence to a total of 6 primary notifications (4 male, 2 female) after an increase to 8 the previous year. One case (female) was under 15 years of age.

It is pleasing to report that no case of the non-pulmonary form of the disease was notified during the year from one in 1958 and three, in 1957. This gradual decline in mortality and also in incidence with occasional remissions conforms to the general trend of the disease, which is rapidly being reduced through modern treatment, constant vigilance in following up contacts and B.C.G. vaccination with the parents' consent of children at risk.

The number of Inward Transfers of Tuberculosis for the district was twice that of the number of new notifications, a total of 12 (11 Pulmonary, 1 Non-Pulmonary) being transferred during the year. This was particularly noticeable in the last two quarters of the year when no less than 9 cases were inwardly transferred.

Since 1952, when the number of Inward Transfers began to increase, a total of 74 cases have been inwardly transferred, mainly to the new housing estates. With the growth of Newbiggin Hall Estate, re-housing some of the overspill population of Newcastle upon Tyne, this is likely to continue, if not to increase.

Close co-operation is maintained with the Chest Clinic regarding the housing needs of patients.

The After-Care Committee whose meetings are attended by the Senior Chest Physician and Almoner deals with other requirements as necessary.

Patients attend the Chest Clinic, New Bridge Street, Newcastle upon Tyne, under the care of the Senior Chest Physician, and are admitted to the various Sanatoria of the region or the Walkergate Hospital almost immediately.

Surveillance of contacts and those at risk is undertaken at the Clinic and home visiting as necessary is carried out by the County Health Visitors.

During the last four years, 9 cases in connection with the re-housing of patients suffering from Tuberculosis have been investigated. As a result, the Council have rehoused five of these families.

### **MASS RADIOGRAPHY**

No visits were paid by the mobile unit in 1959. Sessions had been held in May, 1958 and arrangements were being made for a visit of the unit early in 1960.

## **III.—GENERAL EPIDEMIOLOGY**

304 cases of Infectious Diseases were notified, compared with 92 in 1958 and 416 in 1957. The rise in incidence was entirely of Measles, 277 cases being notified.

### **MEASLES**

The last outbreak of measles was in 1957 when during the early months of the year 300 cases were notified. In 1958, 9 cases only were notified so that the pattern of biennial increase has been faithfully followed during the last few years. The incidence of the disease commenced to rise in March and continued until July, after which there was a rapid decline. The peak month was in April when 75 notifications were received. Cases occurred throughout the district mainly in the Brunton Park district, which had the highest number of notifications, and also in Brunswick, Hazlerigg and Melton Park.

### **SCARLET FEVER**

The decline in incidence of Scarlet Fever continued. This year a total of 9 cases was notified compared with 7 in 1958 and 12, in 1957. The cases were sporadic and of a very mild type.

### **WHOOPIING COUGH**

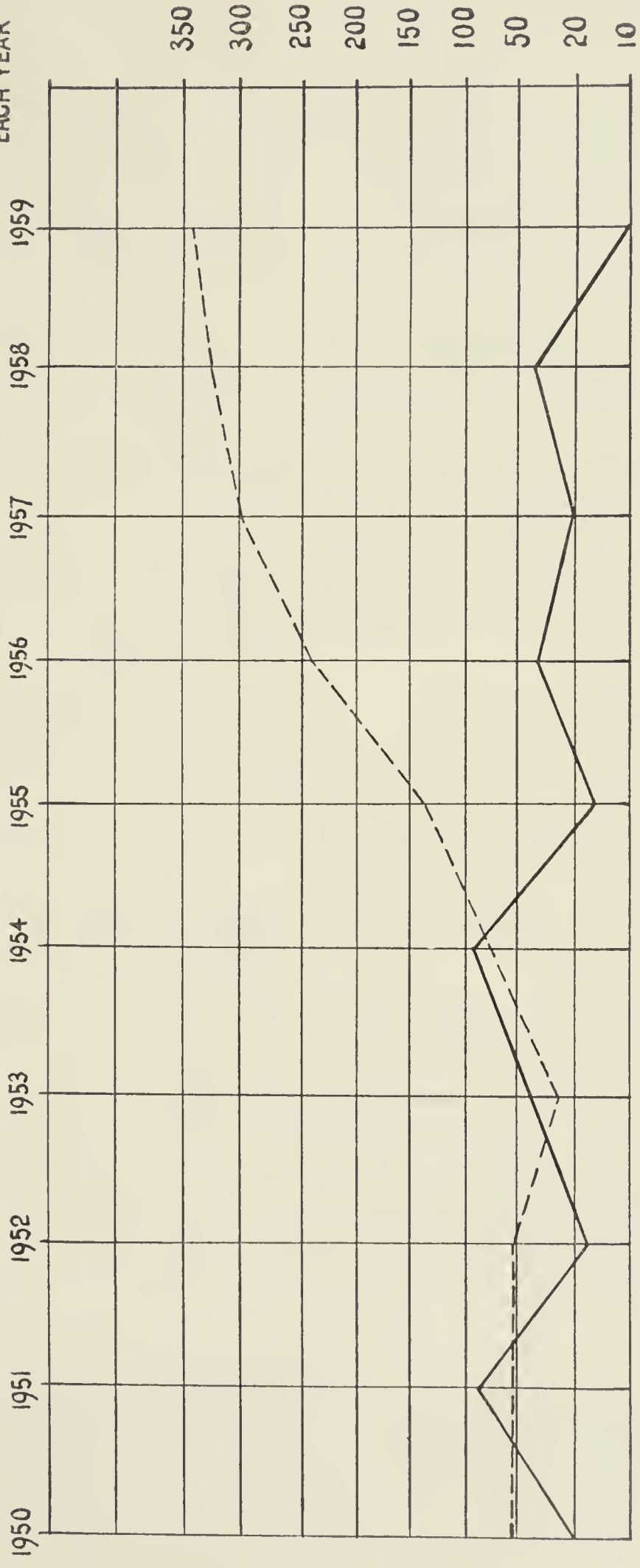
As is to be expected with the increase of immunisation against Whooping Cough there was a further big decrease in the number of cases notified during the year to a total of 10 from 32, in 1958, and 20, in 1957.

A graph has been compiled showing the gradual slight decrease in incidence of the disease during the last 10 years as the number of children receiving protection against Whooping Cough each year has increased.

### **DYSENTERY**

Three cases only of Sonne-Dysentery were notified compared with 13 in the previous year. All three cases occurred in May, one case at a residential school in the district. Investigations were made and 69 stool specimens submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examin-

NUMBER OF  
CHILDREN  
VACCINATED  
AGAINST  
WHOOPIG  
COUGH  
EACH YEAR



WHOOPIG COUGH PROPHYLAXIS -----

WHOOPIG COUGH NOTIFICATIONS —————





ation. The result showed that one member of the staff and two other pupils were positive excretors. Pupils and staff received treatment until clear.

One case of Flexner Dysentery was notified, no symptomless excretors were found and the case cleared rapidly under treatment. The other two cases were sporadic ones.

### **FOOD POISONING**

No notification of Food Poisoning was received during the year, as in 1958. One case of Salmonellosis due to salmonella typhi-murium occurred, a little girl of 5 years, no link with food could be established.

### **VIRUS AND INFLUENZAL PNEUMONIA**

A welcome decrease took place in the number of notifications of primary Pneumonia. Two cases only were notified compared with 5 in 1958 and 8, in 1957.

As has been the practice for many years, at the request of the Ministry of Health, the general practitioners of the district kept a close watch on any rise in the prevalence of Influenza in the district, as distinct from the common cold and its complications.

### **ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS**

No case of Polio-myelitis was notified ; indeed there has been no notification of this disease in the district since 1955. There were no known contacts of any case during the year.

One case of Lymphadenopathy, which is not a notifiable disease, was admitted to Walkergate Hospital ; the patient a boy of 10 years made a quick recovery.

## **IV.—NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 AMENDMENT ACT, 1951**

### **Burial or Cremation of the Dead—Section 50.**

No formal action was necessary under this section.

### **Removal to Suitable Premises of Persons in need of Care and Attention—Section 47.**

In the early part of the year on the request of a general practitioner the circumstances of an old lady, bedfast and living alone at Matfen, were investigated under this section. Suitable arrangements were made for her continued stay at home, and the services of a home help supplied. There were no insanitary circumstances. The old lady was cared for at home until her death a few weeks later. No formal action was necessary under this section.

## **V.—HOUSING**

Housing conditions in general throughout the district are fairly satisfactory. There is however no room for complacency; there are still a number of houses without proper bathrooms and hot water systems. When every

dwelling house throughout the district is provided with all modern amenities, only then can it be said that the housing conditions are entirely satisfactory.

Previous reports over the last decade show the number of unfit houses that have been dealt with under Sec. 11 Housing Act, 1936 and Sec. 17 Housing Act 1957.

It is inevitable that due to lack of maintenance some houses will deteriorate to such an extent as to warrant official representations being made with a view to demolition.

During the year under review no such representations were made.

One case of overcrowding was found during the year which was remedied by the Owners of the property.

The building of new houses proceeded at a steady rate, 208 were erected by private owners, 15 by the Council, 4 by the Northumberland County Council and 124 by the City and County of Newcastle upon Tyne on the Newbiggin Hall Estate.

## **VI.—FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955**

Details of inspection of food premises in the district numbering 134 are contained in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

All the food establishments, i.e. grocery and provision shops, butchers establishments, cafes, snack bars, ice-cream stalls, public houses etc., are regularly inspected. In all cases personal hygiene of the food handler is emphasised as being of paramount importance.

As last year, no notified illness among residents in the district was traced to any of the food or catering premises.

During the year 33 samples of ice-cream was submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination. There is one manufacturer of ice-cream whose premises are situated in the district ; this was visited regularly and a satisfactory standard of hygiene maintained.

## **VII.—WATER SUPPLY**

The Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company is the official water undertaker to the Council. Their water mains are situated to enable any part of the 130 sq. miles which comprise the district, to be supplied with an adequate and wholesome water service.

## **VIII.—ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION**

The problem of atmospheric pollution does not affect the rural district to the same extent as that suffered by the cities and industrial areas. There is however the presence of pollution of the atmosphere in the eastern part of the district where coal mining has been the industry for many years.

The pit spoil banks still provide a possible source of pollution which although not visible is never-the-less in the atmosphere.

Excellent co-operation exists between the Officials of the National Coal Board and the Council in connection with the control of the fuming of the spoil banks. Water sprays are in constant use.

The Public Analyst Report on the contents of a standard gauge sited at Brunswick Village is included in the Chief Public Health Inspector's Report.

The district is not included in the list of "Black Areas" for the purpose of making a report under circular 5/59, but, never-the-less the Council are considering the formation of a "Smoke Control Area" which would cover the districts of Ponteland and Darras Hall.

## **IX.—WELFARE OF OLD PEOPLE**

The problem of the welfare of old people, while being fundamentally the same, does differ from district to district. It is accepted that the position is more serious in urban areas when compared with rural districts.

There are at present five active "Over Sixty Clubs" which are situated at Hazlerigg, Heddon-on-the-Wall, Dinnington Village, Brunswick Village and Ponteland.

Members of the Ponteland Women's Voluntary Services continue to play an active part in helping the aged.

There are schemes for Chiropody services at Ponteland and Hazlerigg. The Belsay Old People's Welfare Committee have agreed to join the County Chiropody Scheme.

The Northumberland Rural Old People's Voluntary Welfare Committee continued to give encouragement and active support to all organisations concerned in this very important work, and their efforts are greatly appreciated.

## **HEALTH EDUCATION**

As in previous years posters supplied by various health organisations including the Ministry of Health were displayed in prominent places including the Child Welfare Clinics. Talks were given to various groups of people on matters appertaining to health. The Council incorporates home safety with their Road Safety Committee.

## **MORTUARY SERVICE**

The Mortuary at Gosforth serves the northern and eastern parts of the rural district and like provision is also made at Newburn for the southern and western parts. Both Mortuaries are of up-to-date design, the Gosforth one being adapted for the purpose and the Newburn mortuary situated at Lemington Cemetery, is a new building. Suitable financial arrangements for their use have been made with the respective Councils.

## **X.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT**

The details under this section have been supplied in the report of Mr. E. W. Strachan, Chief Public Health Inspector.

### **HEALTH SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT**

#### **(a) HOSPITALS UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD**

- (i) Birney Hill Neurosis Hospital.
- (ii) Burnholme, Stannington, attached to the Northgate Hospital, Morpeth.



- (iii) The Ponteland Hospital....
- (iv) St. Mary's Hospital, Stannington (treatment of mental disorders).
- (v) The Stannington Children's Hospital, Stannington.

**(b) LOCAL AUTHORITY HOMES**

- (i) The Cottage Homes, Ponteland (Newcastle Corporation).
- (ii) The Mona Taylor Maternity Home, Stannington (Northumberland County Council) (Part III Accommodation).
- (iii) The Thomas Taylor Homes, Stannington (for aged people) (Northumberland County Council).

**(c) NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL..**

Services 3, 4, 5 and 6, and the care of the buildings under service 2 are administered by the South Area Health Sub-Committee of the Northumberland County Council.

**1. DOMICILLIARY NURSING AND MIDWIFERY.**

There are six nurse/midwives practising in the district and two more share Stamfordham district.

- (1) Nurse Simpson, 4, Cheviot View, Brunswick Village.
- (2) Nurse Cockburn, 49, Western Way, Darras Hall (Dinnington Village area). Telephone : Ponteland 2600.
- (3) Nurse Brown, 5, The Green, Ponteland. Telephone : Ponteland 2324.
- (4) Nurse Learney, Wooler Cottage, Stannington. Telephone : Stannington 242.
- (5) Nurse Edmondson, 33, The Fairway, Brunton Park. Telephone : Wideopen 3224.  
Nurse Leck, Two Trees, Scotscap and Nurse Gill, The Willows, Corbridge, together with Nurse Brown, share Stamfordham district. Telephone : Corbridge 90.
- (6) Nurse Turnbull, 31, Aquila Drive, Heddon.

**2. MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE**

Nine Maternity and Child Welfare Centres are situated in the district one at each of the following places :—

Dinnington Village, Brunswick Village, Brunton Park, Hazlerigg, rigg, Ponteland, Stamfordham, Stannington Settlement, Heddon-on-the-Wall and Ouston.

Sessions are held for babies, children up to five years and for expectant mothers as well as for immunisation and other special sessions.

A new centre was opened at Ouston for the benefit of the mothers and children living at the Aerodrome. It is held once a month.

**3. AMBULANCE SERVICE.**

Telephone No. : Wideopen Depot—Wideopen 2367.  
Throckley Depot—Lemington 674535.

Wideopen Depot which is situated a few hundred yards beyond the eastern boundary of the rural district is the largest depot in the County and covers the eastern part of Castle Ward, Gosforth and Longbenton



Urban districts. All messages are received from the whole of the southern part of the County from 4 p.m. to 8 a.m. on Weekdays, from noon on Saturdays to 8 a.m. on Mondays and relayed to the respective stations.

Throckley Depot covers the southern and western parts of the rural district and ambulances of the Morpeth Depot the northern part.

#### 4. VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Immunisation against Diphtheria was carried on as in former years at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres in the district and by General Practitioners.

A total of 337 children under 15 years of age received a primary course during the year compared with 325 the previous year.

At December 31st the percentage of children who had been immunised at some time during their lives was as follows (the figures for the previous year are in brackets) :—

0—4 years	..	80%	(78%)
5—15 years	..	98%	(98%)
Total under 15 years	..	90%	(88%)

The Immunity Index, i.e. children who have been immunised during the last 5 years showed 36% (32%) children under 1 year of age, 91% (91%) children 1—4 years, 75% (79%) children 5—14 years, giving a total Immunity Index of 77% (78%).

The campaign of vaccination against Poliomyelitis continued during the year and extended to the older age group, up to 26 years.

Many school children who had not previously been done received their injections this year and others their third injection. Probably as a consequence of this, the number of school children immunised against Diphtheria decreased.

A very encouraging increase continued to take place in the Immunity Index of children under one year of age, to 36% from 32% in 1958 and 18% in 1957.

The importance of immunisation against Diphtheria must not be lost sight of in the multiplicity of other injections and indeed the parents of young children are generally most assiduous in carrying out the advice on this question given to them at the clinics and by their own Doctors. It is expected, now that nearly all the school children have received three Poliomyelitis injections, that immunisation in the schools against Diphtheria will proceed.

#### WHOOPIING COUGH PROPHYLAXIS

332 children received protective injections against Whooping Cough, 261 of these being given in the form of the triple antigen of Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus and 71 of the combined antigen of Diphtheria and Whooping Cough.

The number of children receiving the triple antigen has rapidly increased during the last few years. The value of this protection against Whooping Cough is now showing results in the decreasing incidence of the disease. The graph previously mentioned on this point will be of interest.

## **TETANUS**

The number of children who received immunisation with the triple antigen increased to 261 from 193 in 1958 and 50 in 1957. This protection has become an almost standard routine in young children.

## **VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX**

An encouraging increase took place in the number of primary vaccinations against Smallpox to 223 from 106 the previous year. In addition there were 16 re-vaccinations. The finish of the initial rush for polio vaccination and the advice given as to spacing of injections appears to be having effects.

## **VACCINATION AGAINST POLIOMYELITIS**

This has been mentioned previously and it would be difficult at this stage to give figures for the rural district but by the end of the year, in the south area, 20,000 children from six months to 15 years of age, 1,046 expectant mothers, 309 other classes including hospital staffs and 2,948 young persons 15 to 25 years of age had received two injections. In addition, 15,226 third injections had been given.

## **5. HOME HELP SERVICE**

In the course of the year 88 patients (106) resident in the rural district received the services of a home help for varying periods. The cases included 20 confinements (26) 9 (17) cases of acute illness, 58 (59) aged and infirm people and one blind person. The number of elderly and infirm people helped by the service remained almost the same in both years. There was a decrease in the number of cases of acute illness requiring the service. There is no doubt that the home help service is particularly valuable in keeping elderly and infirm people comfortable and able to carry on in their own homes.

## **6. CARE AND AFTER-CARE**

The Gosforth and Castle Ward After-Care Committee held their meetings regularly every three months and cases of Tuberculosis, Heart and Chest Diseases continued to receive help with clothing, food, travelling expenses to Hospital, etc., as required.

## **7. NURSING CARE COMMITTEES**

There are three Nursing Care Committees in the district, Blagdon --(Stannington), Ponteland and Stamfordham. Although not often called upon for their services these committees nevertheless fulfil a useful service should the need arise.

The Dinnington district is looked after by the Gosforth and Castle Ward Care and After-Care Sub-Committee and the South Area Health Sub-Committee supplies the more unusual and larger items of equipment when required and keeps the district nurses supplied with the smaller articles of equipment for loan to suitable cases

## STATISTICAL SUMMARY AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

### PARTICULARS OF DISTRICT :

Area (in acres) .. .. .	82,846
Registrar General's estimated population .. .. .	20,510
Number of habitable houses .. .. .	6,458
Sum represented by penny rate .. .. .	£1,240
Rateable Value .. .. .	£304,127

### EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS :

	Males	Females	Total
Live births (leg.) .. .. .	156	183	339
Live births (illeg.) .. .. .	5	2	7
Still births .. .. .	1	—	1
Deaths .. .. .	204	192	396
Birth rate per 1,000 population .. .. .	..	..	11.1
Still births per 1,000 live and still births .. .. .	..	..	2.9
Death Rate .. .. .	..	..	10.03

### DEATHS FROM PREGNANCY, CHILDBIRTH, ABORTION :

Maternal Mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births .. .. .	—
---	---

### DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR :

All Infants per 1,000 live births .. .. .	17.7
---	------

## CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE CASTLE WARD AREA, 1959

				Institutional			
				Males	Females	Total	Deaths
ALL CAUSES				204	192	396	(254)
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	..	..	—	—	—	(—)
2.	Tuberculosis, other	..	..	—	1	1	(—)
3.	Syphilitic disease	..	..	1	—	1	(1)
4.	Diphtheria	..	..	—	—	—	(—)
5.	Whooping Cough	..	..	—	—	—	(—)
6.	Meningococcal Infections	..	..	—	—	—	(—)
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	..	..	—	—	—	(—)
8.	Measles	..	..	—	—	—	(—)
9.	Other Infective and parasitic diseases	..	..	1	—	1	(—)
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	..	..	6	—	6	(1)
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	..	..	—	1	1	(—)
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	..	..	—	3	3	(—)
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	..	..	—	1	1	(—)
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	..	..	11	8	19	(2)
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	..	..	—	—	—	(—)
16.	Diabetes	..	..	—	—	—	(—)
17.	Vascular Lesions of nervous system	..	..	89	36	125	(113)
18.	Coronary disease, angina	..	..	30	11	41	(8)
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	..	..	8	1	9	(2)
20.	Other heart disease	..	..	79	19	98	(75)
21.	Other circulatory disease	..	..	14	2	16	(10)
22.	Influenza	..	..	—	—	—	(—)
23.	Pneumonia	..	..	16	3	19	(14)
24.	Bronchitis	..	..	5	—	5	(4)
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	..	..	2	1	3	(2)
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	..	..	2	1	3	(—)
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	..	..	—	—	—	(—)
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	..	..	—	—	—	(—)
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	..	..	—	—	—	(—)
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	..	..	—	—	—	(—)
31.	Congenital malformations	..	..	2	—	2	(—)
32.	Other defined and ill-defined disease	..	..	16	5	21	(16)
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	..	..	4	1	5	(—)
34.	All other accidents	..	..	7	4	11	(5)
35.	Suicide	..	..	4	1	5	(1)
36.	Homicide and operations of war	..	..	—	—	—	(—)

(Figures in brackets indicate Hospital deaths)



**BIRTH AND DEATH RATES (per 1,000 Population)**

		Births.			Deaths	
		Castle Ward	England & Wales	—	Castle Ward	England & Wales
1939	..	14.2	15.5	—	8.8	12.1
1940	..	13.1	15.1	....	8.3	14.3
1941	..	13.0	15.7	....	19.0	11.6
1942	..	15.9	16.3	....	10.1	11.6
1943	..	15.7	17.0	....	9.3	12.1
1944	..	17.5	18.1	....	12.6	11.6
1945	..	14.9	16.5	....	11.6	11.4
1946	..	17.2	19.6	....	10.7	11.5
1947	..	14.9	21.0	....	11.5	12.0
1948	..	15.4	18.3	....	10.9	10.8
1949	..	15.8	16.7	....	10.0	11.7
1950	..	15.6	15.8	....	10.47	11.6
1951	..	14.2	15.5	....	10.43	12.5
1952	..	13.8	15.3	....	17.05	11.3
1953	..	13.7	15.5	....	19.9	11.4
1954	..	15.5 <sup>8</sup>	15.2	....	20.02	11.3
1955	..	16.4	15.0	....	17.89	11.7
1956	..	15.2	15.7	....	12.0	11.7
1957	..	16.3	16.1	....	10.1	11.5
1958	..	17.4	16.4	....	11.8	11.7
1959	..	11.1	16.5	..	10.03	11.6

**INFANT MORTALITY RATES**

		Castle Ward	England & Wales
1944	..	41.8	46
1945	..	50.9	46
1946	..	43.0	43
1947	..	41.0	41
1948	..	26.3	34
1949	..	13.4	32
1950	..	13.4	29.8
1951	..	19.2	29.6
1952	..	55.0	27.6
1953	..	51.3	25.5
1954	..	27.1	25.5
1955	..	28.6	24.9
1956	..	15.0	23.8
1957	..	20.4	23.0
1958	..	21.4	22.5
1959	..	17.7	22.0

**INFANT MORTALITY, 1959**

Uræmia	..	..	..	1 week.
Prematurity	..	..	..	2 hours
Hydrocephalus congenital	..	..	..	5 minutes
Hyaline membrane disease	..	..	..	2 days
Atelectasis	..	..	..	13 hours
T.B. Meningitis	..	..	..	7 months

## PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The table on page 19 gives the number and age groups of the cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the year.

### PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY TESTS

			Positive	Negative
Throat Swabs for Diphtheria	..	..	—	2
Throat Swabs for Haemolytic Streptococci			9	24
Specimens of Sputum for Tuberculosis	..	..	—	—
Gastric aspiration for Inoculation (Tuberculosis)	..	..	—	—
Urine for Pus Cells and Culture	..	..	—	—
Stool Specimens for Dysentery	..	..	15	116
Stool specimens for other purposes	..	..	—	—
Nasal swabs for Pertussis	..	..	—	—
			24	142
			166	
TOTAL	..	..		

### FOOD POISONING RETURN, 1959

#### OUTBREAKS DUE TO IDENTIFIED AGENTS :

Total Outbreaks	Nil.	Total Cases	..	..	Nil.
-----------------	------	-------------	----	----	------

#### OUTBREAKS DUE TO :

(a) Chemical Poisons	..	..	..	..	..	Nil.
(b) Salmonella Organisms	..	..	..	..	..	Nil.
(c) Staphylococci (including Toxin)	..	..	..	..	..	Nil.
(d) Cl. botulinum	..	..	..	..	..	Nil.
(e) Other bacteria	..	..	..	..	..	Nil.

#### OUTBREAKS OF UNDISCOVERED CAUSE :

Total Outbreaks	Nil.	Total Cases	..	..	Nil.
-----------------	------	-------------	----	----	------

SINGLE CASES	..	..	..	..	..	Nil.
Agent Identified	..	..	..	..	..	Nil.

NUMBER OF DEATHS	Nil.
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FOOD INVOLVED	..	Nil.
---------------	----	------

#### SALMONELLOSIS :,

Total Outbreaks	Nil
Single Cases	One due to Salmonella Typhi-murium

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE YEARLY RETURN, 1959

DISEASE	0—1		1—		3—		5—		10—		15—		25 and Over		Total		Hos- pital		Deaths	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Scarlet Fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	5	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ..	1	—	—	2	1	3	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	3	7	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ..	4	2	31	19	42	34	68	60	6	10	—	1	—	—	151	126	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Polio Encephalitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

DISEASE	0—		5—		15—		45—		65 and Over		Total		Deaths	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Acute Pneumonia ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	—	—
Dysentery ..	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	2	2	—	—
Smallpox ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Enc. Lethargica ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	1	1	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric & Typhoid Fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

## TUBERCULOSIS—AGE GROUPS

AGE PERIODS	New cases notified as occurring in the Rural District during 1959			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 .. .. .	—	—	—	—
1—5 .. .. .	—	—	—	—
5—15 .. .. .	—	1	—	—
15—25 .. .. .	1	—	—	—
25—35 .. .. .	1	1	—	—
35—45 .. .. .	—	—	—	—
45—55 .. .. .	2	—	—	—
55—65 .. .. .	—	—	—	—
Age Unknown .. .. .	—	—	—	—
	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;">             4      2              └───┬───┘              6           </div> <div style="text-align: center;">             —      —              └───┬───┘              —              6           </div> </div>			



## STATEMENT OF CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS, 1959

	No. of cases on Register at commencement of Quarter		New Notifications		Inward Transfers		Number of cases removed from Register		Number of cases remaining	
	Pul-monary	Non-Pul.	Pul-monary	Non-Pul.	Pul-monary	Non-Pul.	Pul-monary	Non-Pul.	Pul-monary	Non-Pul.
March 31st, 1959—										
Males ..	63	8	1	—	2	1	—	—	66	9
Females ..	69	18	—	—	—	—	2	—	67	18
June 30th, 1959—										
Males ..	66	9	—	—	—	—	3	—	63	9
Females ..	67	18	—	—	—	—	1	—	66	18
September 30th, 1959—										
Males ..	63	9	2	—	1	—	1	1	65	8
Females ..	66	18	1	—	2	—	1	1	68	17
December 31st, 1959—										
Males ..	65	8	1	—	2	—	2	—	66	8
Females ..	68	17	1	—	4	—	—	—	73	17

# Annual Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent 1959

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1959.

As in previous years there has been a steady increase in the number of new houses, which directly affects the Cleansing Service. The new depot and its equipment for the maintenance of vehicles has proved to be most satisfactory and advantageous to the service and personnel.

Work in other fields of environmental hygiene as reported by Dr. M. Hopper, Medical Officer of Health, and as shown in the following report have also increased. This is all due to the constant development in the district.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

### (a) MILK SUPPLY

The Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, imposes on the Local Authority the task of ensuring hygienic handling of milk during its retail distribution. This includes the registration of dairymen, of whom there are twelve operating in the district.

#### REGISTERED DAIRYMEN :

Mr. J. H. Brown, Ivy House, Kenton Bank Foot.  
Cramlington and District Co-operative Society, Ltd., Brunswick Village.  
Mr. D. Eblett, 8A Newlands Ave., Melton Park.  
Mr. H. J. Farquhar, 10 Queensway, Brunton Park.  
Messrs. J. T. & R. Graham, Wylam Hills Farm, Wylam.  
Mr. J. A. Herron, 16 Woodside, Darras Hall.  
Mr. J. Hudspeth, North Bunton Dairy Farm, Gosforth.  
Newcastle Co-operative Society, Ltd., Cowgate Dairy, Newcastle.  
Messrs. W. & M. A. Sloan, 11 Market Street, Hexham.  
Mr. H. Thompson, "Kenmore," Dinnington.  
Throckley & District Co-operative Soc., Ltd., Hexham Road, Throckley.  
Mrs. M. U. White, North Mason Farm, Dinnington.

Three names were removed from the register during the year at the request of the dairymen concerned.

### MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949

Number of dealers licences issued to retail "Tuberculin Tested" Milk	5
Number of Supplementary licences issued to retail "Tuberculin Tested" Milk	

## MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (PASTUERISED AND STERILISED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949

Number of dealers licences issued to retail " Pasteurised " milk	6
Number of dealers licences issued to retail " Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) " milk	4
Number of supplementary licences issued to retail " Tuberculin Tested (Pastuerised) " milk	2
Number of supplementary licences issued to retail " Pasteurised " milk	4
Number of dealers licences issued to retail " Sterilised " milk	2
Number of supplementary licences issued to retail " Sterilised " milk	4

Forty-six milk samples were taken during the year from local producers, six Tuberculin Tested, the remainder ungraded. All samples were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for the methylene blue test to determine cleanliness and keeping qualities ; the ungraded samples were also examined biologically for the presense of tuberculosis. It is pleasing to note that, once again, all samples were free from tuberculosis, evidence that the national drive towards universal attestation of cattle is paying dividends in the form of disease-free milk supplies.

Results of samples are forwarded to the Milk Production Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, with whom friendly co-operation is maintained.

Under the Milk (Special Designations) (Specified Areas) Order, 1958, which came into operation on 14th April, 1958, the following Local Authority districts were included in Specified Area No. 1 :—

Borough of Morpeth.

Urban Districts of Alnwick, Amble, Ashington, Bedlingtonshire and Newbiggin-by-the-Sea.

Rural districts of Alnwick, Castle Ward, Morpeth and Rothbury.

In this area, all milk sold by retail must bear a Special Designation, i.e., " Pasteurised," " Sterilised " or " Tuberculin Tested."

During the year, more dairy farms changed from the production of ungraded to Tuberculin-Tested milk in furtherance of Ministry policy and only eight ungraded producers remained at the end of the year. These are expected to obtain T.T. licences next year.

A complaint was received with regard to a piece of glass in a bottle of milk and this was promptly taken up with the Manager of the bottling plant concerned, who afforded every facility for enquiry. A thorough investigation was made and, as usual, in a highly mechanised process of this kind, the fault was found to lie in human error. The stringent precautions already taken at the plant were further tightened-up and the complainant was satisfied that everything humanly possible was being done to obviate complaints of this kind.

### (b) FOOD PREMISES

There are 134 food premises in the district, as follows :—

Butchers	11
Canteens (Industrial)	6
Clubs	7
Food Manufacturers	1
Fried Fish Shops (1 mobile)	2

General Dealers (including grocers and greengrocers)	..	48
Hospital and Institution kitchens	.. ..	11
Public Houses and Off-Licences	.. ..	25
Restaurants, Cafes, Snack-bars	.. ..	9
School Kitchens	.. ..	14
		<hr/>
		134

Of the above, 46 are registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, for the following purposes :—

Manufacture and Sale of Ice-Cream	.. ..	1
Sale of Ice-Cream	.. ..	33
Manufacture of Sausage and Preserved Meats	.. ..	12

In addition, a number of mobile Ice-Cream kiosks operate during the summer months, all of which are subject to inspection under the Food Hygiene Regulations.

#### (c) ICE-CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT) REGULATIONS, 1947.

During the year, 33 ice-cream samples were taken and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination, 6 samples from the sole manufacturer in the district and the remainder from registered retailers. Results of the samples were as follows :—

Grade I	.. ..	26
Grade II	.. ..	1
Grade III	.. ..	2
Grade IV	.. ..	4

Where samples were placed in Grade IV, this was taken up with the manufacturers concerned and subsequent samples attained the required standard.

#### (d) FOOD & DRUGS ACT 1955 (SAMPLING OF FOOD).

Formal sampling under this Act is undertaken by the County Council Weights and Measures Department, to whose Chief Inspector, Mr. C. L. Arlidge, I am indebted for the following report.

“ A total of 70 samples were taken in the Castle Ward Rural District during 1959.

The articles sampled were as follows :—

Beef Sausage	Lemon Juice
Blackcurrant Jam	Malt Vinegar
Black Pudding	Margarine
Bi-Carbonate of Soda	Mincemeat
Butter Macaroons	Milk
Casserole Steak	Mustard
Cheese Spread	Olive Oil
Corn Oil	Orange Frutie
Creamed Rice	Orange Squash
Creamed Sago	Pease Pudding
Custard Powder	Pork Sausages
Dried Mint	Pork Sansagemeat
Egg Rusks	Pure Lard
Essence of Rennet	Salad Cream



Farm Butter	Salmon
Glace Cherries	Salmon Spread
Glycerine, Lemon & Honey Sweets	Self-Raising Flour
Golden Marzipan	Semolina
Gravy Salt	Sun-Spa Salts
Ground Rice	Tomato Juice
Honey	Tongue and Ham Spread
Ice Cream	White Pepper
Lemon Crush	

With the exception of a sample of Mustard, the container of which bore an ambiguous statement regarding the quality, all the articles were reported by the Public Analyst to be genuine. Representations made to the manufacturers resulted in the necessary amendment of the description of the Mustard."

### (e) UNSOUND FOOD

During the year two complaints were dealt with under this heading involving :—

- (a) Mould growth in an apple tart.
- (b) Mould growth in a chocolate swiss roll.

In each case a thorough investigation was immediately made, with the full co-operation of the firms involved. The facts established, together with the detailed explanations given, were such that it was not considered necessary to institute legal proceedings, although letters of warning were sent.

In this age highly mechanised food preparation, the elimination of complaints of this nature demands the unremitting vigilance of all concerned.

### DISPOSAL OF CONDEMNED FOOD

Condemned meat and offal is stained with indelible green dye to prevent its use for human consumption and is collected from the slaughter houses as required for processing by a firm of glue and chemical manufacturers. A small income accrues to the Council from this source and the sum of £89 15s. 1d. was received for the year.

### MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

#### Slaughter Houses

The district has six licensed slaughterhouses :—

1. Mr. J. Anderson, North Grange Farm, Ponteland.
2. Mr. J. Ball, 4 Darrell Street, Brunswick Village.
3. Mr. T. Bewick, Diamond Inn, Ponteland.
4. Cramlington & District Co-operative Society, Ltd., Brunswick Village.
5. Mr. E. Lumley, Bridge End, Stamfordham.
6. Messrs. N. W. Wilson & Sons, West View, Stamfordham.

A daily inspection is made of the carcasses and offal of all animals slaughtered in the district for human consumption. Ante-mortem examination is carried out where possible, particularly of animals sent in to the slaughterhouses for emergency slaughter. Full details of the inspections appear elsewhere in the report.

The Slaughterhouses Act, 1958, required Local Authorities to review and report on the present and future requirements of the district for slaughterhouse facilities and the facilities likely to be available to meet these requirements. The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, by order, appointed 1st November, 1959, as the earliest and 1st November, 1960 as the latest date for submission of this report. The Council is required to consult interested parties, and the report is in course of preparation.

Part of the report is a recommendation by the Council of a date, not later than 1st July, 1962, by which all slaughterhouses must comply with the construction regulations. Estimates of costs necessary to bring the slaughterhouses up to standard were prepared after surveys made by the Surveyor's and Public Health Departments. In most cases the Owners of the premises considered the cost prohibitive and expressed themselves as unwilling to undertake the necessary works. These Owners, whose premises account for approximately 75% of the district's slaughtering, support the proposal of a Council abattoir, plans for which are in course of preparation by the Engineer and Surveyor, Mr. G. E. Dimmack, M.I.Mun.E.

## DETAILS OF ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED AND INSPECTED

	Cattle excl. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
Normal Kill .. .. .	1044	328	242	5555	1321	8490
Casualties .. .. .	21	30	9	207	33	300
Number examined .. .. .	1065	358	251	5762	1354	8790
<b>CARCASES CONDEMNED WHOLLY OR IN PART :</b>						
<b>A. All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci—</b>						
Whole carcasses condemned ..	16(8)	24(12)	16(6)	127 (66)	9(4)	192 (96)
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	455	193	8	237	245	1138
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci ..	44.2%	60.6%	9.6%	6.3%	18.8%	15.1%
<b>B. Tuberculosis only :</b>						
Whole carcasses condemned ..	1	6(1)	—	—	—	7 (1)
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	61	31	—	—	28	120
Percentage of number inspect- ed affected with Tuberculosis	5.8%	10.3%	—	—	2.1%	1.5%
<b>C. Cysticercosis :</b>						
Whole Carcasses condemned ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	3	1	—	—	—	4
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with cysti- cerci .. .. .	0.28%	0.28%	—	—	—	0.05%

*The number of casualties are shown in brackets and are included in the totals.*

## CYSTICERCUS BOVIS

*Cysticercus bovis*, or "beef measles" is the cystic stage of the tape-worm *taenia saginata*, which can affect humans who consume infected beef. Where cases of *cysticercus bovis* are discovered in the slaughter-house, exhaustive enquiries are made to establish the history and farm of origin of the beast affected, This information is promptly sent to the County Health Department, where a survey of the incidence of the disease is being carried out. The information is passed by the County to the district council from whose area the animal came and every effort is then made to establish the source of the infection. In this way it is hoped to eradicate this condition in beef cattle.

## DETAILS OF MEAT, AND OTHER ORGANS CONDEMNED, SURRENDERED, AND DISPOSED OF

### FOR TUBERCULOSIS :

#### Bovine

Heads and Tongues	..	41
Lungs	.. ..	95
Livers	.. ..	17
Kidneys	.. ..	7
Beef	.. ..	18 stones
Carcases (7 including casualty)	.. ..	165 stones

#### Pigs

Heads and Tongues	..	23
Plucks	.. ..	1

### FOR OTHER DEFINED DISEASES :

#### Bovine :

Heads and Tongues	21	—Actinomycosis 6, Abscesses 3, Bruising 3, Cysticercus Bovis, 4, Oedema 5.
Lungs	.. .. 169	Abscesses 9, Adhesions 1, Emphysema 28, Ill-bled 10, Parasites 5, Pleurisy 61, Pneumonia 55.
Plucks	.. .. 3	—Pneumonia 2, Traumatic pericarditis 1.
Livers (Whole)	.. 279	—Abscesses 17, Cirrhosis 238, Fatty Degeneration 3, Fatty Infiltration 5, Ill-bled 3, Parasites 1, Telangiectasis 11, Toxaemia 1.
Livers (Part)	.. 207	—Abscesses 1, Cirrhosis 206.
Kidneys	.. .. 13	Hydronephrosis 1, Infarcts 1, Nephritis 8, Retention Cysts 3.
Hearts	.. .. 1	Pericarditis 1. —
Skirts	.. .. 10	—Abscesses 4, Peritonitis 1, Pleurisy 5.
Fat	.. .. 3 lbs.	—Abscesses 3 lb.
Beef	.. .. 126 st.	—Abscesses 7 st. ; Bruising 48 st., Oedema 16 st., Traumatism 55 st.
Carcases	.. .. 976 st.	—Acute Enteritis and Oedema, 1.
(56, including casualties)	26	Acute Metritis and Peritonitis, 1 ; Acute Pneumonia 3, Arthritis and Oedema 1, Bruising and Oedema 3, Gangrenous Pericarditis 1, Gangrenous Peritonitis 1, Generalised Oedema 5, Immaturity 3, Jaundice 1, John's disease 1, Moribund Carcasses 4, Oedema



and Emaciation 12, Pathological Emaciation 1, Pleurisy and Peritonitis 2, Pyaemia 1, Pyrexia 5, Septicaemia 3, Septic Peritonitis 1, Septic Pneumonia 3, Traumatism and Oedema 1, Umbilical Pyaemia 2.

#### Sheep :

Lungs .. .. 34 Ill-bled 2, Parasites 2, Pneumonia 30.  
 Plucks .. .. 15 Ill-bled 4, Parasites 9, Pneumonia 2.  
 Livers .. .. 171—Cirrhosis 20, Cysts 1, Fatty Degeneration 4, Fatty Infiltration 9, Ill-bled 2, Parasites 133, Toxaemia 2.  
 Kidneys .. .. 2—Ill-bled 2.  
 Mutton .. .. 145 lbs.—Abscesses 12 lbs, Mastitis 16 lbs, Oedema 2 lbs, Traumatism 115 lbs.  
 Carcases .. .. 353 st.—Extensive Traumatism, 1, Gangrenous Metritis 1, Generalised Oedema 5, Ill bled 3, Immaturity 17, Jaundice 2, Mastitis and Oedema 2, Moribund Carcases 14, Oedema and Emaciation 64, Septic Arthritis 1, Septic Metritis 2, Septic Peritonitis 1, Septic Pleurisy 5, Septic Pneumonia 7, Toxaemia 2.

#### Pigs :

Heads .. .. 1—Abscesses 1.  
 Lungs .. .. 252 sets Ill-bled 20, Pleurisy 7, Pneumonia 225.  
 Plucks .. .. 13—Ill-bled 1, Pericarditis 11, Pneumonia 1.  
 Livers .. .. 24—Ascaris Lumbricoides 15, Cirrhosis 8, Fatty Infiltration 1.  
 Kidneys .. .. 16 Hydronephrosis 2, Nephritis 5, Retention Cysts 9.  
 Pork .. .. 209 lbs—Acute Arthritis 119 lbs, Burns 35 lbs, Extensive Bruising 55 lbs.  
 Carcases (9, including 4 casualties) 68 st. Acute Pericarditis and Oedema 1, Acute Swine Erysipelas 2, Gangrenous Peritonitis 1, Generalised Oedema 2, Immaturity and Oedema 1, Jaundice 1, Pyrexia 1.

**Total weight of Meat and Offal condemned : 31 Tons 1 Cwt.**

### NUMBER OF FOOD ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED AND INSPECTED IN PAST SIX YEARS

	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Cattle (excluding Cows) .. ..	663	857	1266	1463	1438	1065
Cows .. ..	145	141	200	315	348	358
Calves .. ..	108	33	278	384	311	251
Sheep and Lambs .. ..	2239	2517	3630	4522	4737	5762
Pigs .. ..	470	886	1235	2815	1859	1354
Total .. ..	3625	4434	6609	9499	8693	8790

## ANTHRAX ORDER, 1938

This order is operated by the County Constabulary and during the year no notification was received by them under the above-mentioned Order.

## FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE

No case of foot and mouth disease was reported during the year within the district not did any part of the district come within the fifteen mile radius of any other reported outbreak.

## PUBLIC CLEANSING

The cleansing service is responsible for the collection and disposal of household and trade refuse and operates throughout the 130 square miles of the district. This area is at present divided into five sectors, each served by a refuse collecting vehicle and crew, varying in size according to the population density of the sector. There is a charginan on each vehicle who is responsible for his sector and supervision is exercised from the office. To date, this system of supervision has proved adequate, but with the growth of the service it is considered that the appointment of a cleansing foreman is necessary. He would be able to keep a detailed check on the day to day operation of the service and be responsible to the office for its smooth working.

Refuse is collected weekly from the built-up areas of the district (which house the majority of the population), and from all hospitals and institutions. In the remainder of the district (i.e. the rural areas), a fortnightly collection is made.

Building development continued during the year at Darras Hall, Woolsington, Brunton Park, Melton Park, Heddon-on-the-Wall and at the Newcastle Corporation housing estate at Newbiggin Hall, where a total of 3,630 dwellings are to be built. By the end of the year, more than 200 houses and flats had been occupied at Newbiggin Hall and 1960 is expected to see a rapid increase in house completions on this site. With this in view an order has been placed for an 18 cu. yard dual tip refuse vehicle on a Karrier Gamecock chassis for delivery, early in March, 1960. This will replace a 12 cu. yard 1948 Thorneycroft side-loader which will then be overhauled and held as a spare vehicle.

A year has now elapsed since the opening of the new depot and this has proved a great advantage not only in greater ease of vehicle maintenance and overhaul, but also in the general care and protection of the vehicles due to superior garage accommodation. It is of interest to note that the improved staff welfare facilities provided in the depot have given the men a greater pride in the service, which is undoubtedly reflected in greater efficiency.

The service also includes the de-sludging of domestic septic tanks provided for sewage disposal in the case of isolated houses and farm steads where main drainage is not available. At present this is done on request on a part-time basis. However, a 1,000 gallon cesspool emptier mounted on a Ford Thames Trader chassis is on order; this vehicle will be equipped with four-wheel drive and on delivery a full-time service in all weathers will be put into operation. This will enable the Council to implement Ministry recommendations to de-sludge septic tanks every six months. There are now about 550 such installations in the district.

During the year a new Diesel-engined Karrier Bantam side-loader was put into service to replace a 1949 petrol-engined vehicle. The old waggon was dismantled and spares put into store for use on other waggons of the same make.

## VEHICLES.

The following vehicles are employed on the service :—

Thorneycroft	1943	Adapted for septic tank service				
Thorneycroft	1948	12 cu. yd. Side loader. Petrol Engine.				
Karrier Bantam	1949	7	"	"	"	"
Karrier Bantam	1950	7	"	"	"	"
Karrier Bantam	1953	7	"	"	"	"
Shelvoke & Drewry	1955	18 cu. yd. Rear Loader. Diesel engine (Fore & Aft Tipper).				
Karrier Bantam	1959	7 cu. yd. Side loader, Diesel engine				

## REFUSE DISPOSAL.

Disposal points are as follows :—

1. Brickyard Quarry, Ponteland.
2. Shotton Edge Quarry, Stannington.
3. Belsay (Two Quarries).
4. Stobhill, Cheeseburn Grange.
5. Heddon-on-the-Wall.
6. Mill Hill, Dinnington.
7. Disused Sewage Works, Woolsington.
8. Old Quarry, Morley Hill, Hazlerigg.

Refuse is being tipped to fill in the old quarry, Morley Hill, at the request of the National Coal Board.

Disposal is still by uncontrolled tipping and it is again recommended that earth-moving equipment be purchased so that a system of controlled tipping can be instituted. This is becoming urgently necessary at Ponteland tip and at Heddon-on-the-Wall, where new housing development adjoins the tip.

## CLEANSING COSTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1960.

Estimated weight of refuse removed	..	..	..	11,208 tons
Approximate average weight per house per annum	..	..	..	34.7 cwts.
Average volume per house per annum	..	..	..	5.55 cu. yds.
Average per 1,000 population per day (365 days)	..	..	..	29.94 cwts.
Total cost of collection and disposal (Refuse & Salvage)	..	..	..	£18,226
Less Income from salvage, trade refuse etc.,	..	..	..	£1,548
Net Cleansing Cost	..	..	..	£16,678
Cost per house per annum	..	..	..	£2 11 8
Cost per head of population	..	..	..	16 3
Cost on rates in the £	..	..	..	1 1.45d.

## SALVAGE :

As in previous years, salvage, in the form of waste paper, scrap metal and rags, was collected and sold during the year. At the beginning of the year, Thames Board Mills, with whom the Council have a contract

found it necessary to restrict the quantity of newspapers they would accept. During the period of restriction, however, it was found possible to dispose of the surplus to a Scottish firm. The restriction was subsequently lifted and increased quantities were despatched with a consequent appreciable increase over last year in the income derived from this source.

DETAILS OF SALVAGE DESPATCHED :

			Tons	Cwts.	Qtrs.	£	s.	d.
Waste paper	..	..	141	10	2	1,177	9	1
Rags	..	..	3	19	3	93	14	1
Scrap Metal	..	..	8	9	1	59	18	3
						<hr/>		
						153	19	2
						<hr/>		
						£1,331	1	5
						<hr/>		

## WATER

The whole of the district, with the exception of 4 small privately owned water undertakings, is now served by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company.

### Privately Owned Water Supplies.

There are four private water supplies still functioning, and these serve parts of the Parishes of Belsay Ward 2, Capheaton Ward 2, Stanington Ward 2, and Matfen Ward 1.

The source of supply in three instances is from land springs, and in the fourth instance it is supplied from a bore hole.



# WATER SAMPLES TAKEN DURING THE YEAR FOR BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION

Premises.	Type of Supply.	Sample Take from	Probable No. of Coliform Bacilli per 100 ml.
Rognery Farm, Whalton	Shallow well	Dairy tap	Nil.
do. do. ..	do.	Pump	Nil.
do. do. ..	do.	Storage Tank	Nil.
Houghton Hill Head ..	Spring	Land spring	180 +
South Lough House, Stamfordham ..	Shallow well	Tap	Nil
Newhouses, Capheaton ..	Land spring	Roadside Collecting chamber	180 +
Capheaton Village ..	Land Spring	Standpipe	35
White House Farm, Capheaton .. ..	Shallow well	Pump	180 +
Standpipe in Square, Stamfordham ..	Main	Standpipe in square	Nil.
West End Cottage, Matfen .. ..	do.	Tap in scullery	Nil.
Kirkley Hall Farm Institute .. ..	do.	Tap in kitchen	Nil
Standpipe in Square, Whalton .. ..	do.	Standpipe in Square	Nil.
Wallhouses .. ..	do.	Tap in scullery	1
Rose Cottage, Ogle ..	do.	Tap in scullery	Nil.
Old School House, Belsay .. ..	do.	Tap in kitchen	Nil.

I am indebted to Mr. S. G. Barrett, M.I.C.E., Engineer to the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company, for the following information :—

“ At the Company’s Throckley Laboratories, a total number of 1099 samples of filtered water were examined bacteriologically with the resultant classifications of 1093 “excellent,” 5 “satisfactory,” and 1 “unsatisfactory.”

Throughout the year samples taken in the Castle Ward area were analysed as follows :—

<i>Source of Supply</i>	<i>No. of Samples</i>	<i>Classification</i>
Harlow Hill Reservoir	7	All “excellent”
Moot Law Reservoir	4	3 “excellent”
Whalton Reservoir	10	7 “excellent”
		3 “unsatisfactory”
Fenham Reservoir	5	All “excellent”

The "unsatisfactory" sample from Moot Law Reservoir was taken at Wallhouses. A check sample proved "excellent." Regarding the three "unsatisfactory" samples from Whalton Reservoir, two of them were taken at The Farm, Saltwick, where, after the farm storage tank had been cleaned out, a check examination was classified "excellent." The other "unsatisfactory" sample was from Ogle where again a check proved "excellent."

Various authorities within the Company's supply area also carried out bacteriological analyses and, out of a total number of 378 samples examined 352 were classified "excellent," 15 "satisfactory," 4 "suspicious" and 7 "unsatisfactory."

The 11 "suspicious" and "unsatisfactory" samples concerned 8 different points, and in all cases the follow-up examinations proved "excellent."

Bi-monthly chemical analyses were made throughout the year by Messrs. J. & H. S. Pattinson, consulting Analysts with completely satisfactory results.

New water mains were laid during the year 1959 as follows :—

Heddon Parish	747	lin	yards	of	4"	dia.	pipes.
Ponteland Parish	271	"	"	"	3"	"	"
Hazlerigg Parish	106	"	"	"	3"	"	"
Woolsington Parish	—( 73	"	"	"	3"	"	"
	—( 61	"	"	"	4"	"	"
Stamfordham Parish	48	"	"	"	2"	"	"

Premises newly connected during the year 1959 are shown as follows :—

The Heugh, Stamfordham	2	Houses
Cottage, South Farm, Kirkheaton.		House.
South Farm, Ogle.	2	Troughs.
39, Dalton Mill Farm, Dalton.		Trough.
22, 28 Sandybraes Farm, Capheaton.	2	Troughs.
East Trewick Farm, Belsay.		Trough.
Fields 102, 107, Toft Farm, Capheaton.		Trough.
116, 141, West House Farm, Whalton.		Trough.
Bridge End, Stamfordham.		House.
"Trefail," Lough House Plantation, Stannington.		House.
Bolam Park, Bolam.		Trough.
Kirkley Hall Farm Inst., Kirkley	4	Houses.
The Avenue, Medburn.		Caravan.
East Grange Farm, Milbourne.		Trough.
The Green, Stamfordham.	4	Houses.
202-203, 128, 210-211, The Heugh, Stamfordham.	3	Troughs.
South Side, The Green, Stamfordham.	2	Houses.
Park Lodge, Milbourne.		House.
Northside, Stamfordham.		House.
Moot Law Farm, Matfen.		Farm.
Swan Farm, Stannington.		Farm.
Town Farm, Stannington.		Farm.
Vale Farm, Stannington.		Farm.
School, Capheaton.		School.

Todhill & South Farm, Ogle.	Farm.
South Farm, Ryal, Matfen.	Farm.
Briery Hill Farm, Stannington.	Farm.
Farm Blgs. & 2 Cottts., East Trewick.	Farm.
West Newham Farm, Belsay.	Farm.
Ferney Chesters Farm, Shaftoe.	Farm.
Roguery Farm, Whalton.	Farm.
77, 78, Stannington.	Farm.
Burnside Garage, Stamfordham.	Garage
Cowstand Farm, Stamfordham.	Farm.
Ogle Hill Head Farm, Belsay.	Farm.
Stannington Filling Station, Stannington.	Garage.
Pens Close Farm, Stamfordham.	Farm.
Convenience, Matfen.	
Bells Hill Field, Blagdon.	Farm.

## PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Under this Act the Local Authority is required to keep its district free from rats and mice and to this end the Council employ a full time Rodent Operator. Infestations in dwelling houses are dealt with free of charge ; in the case of business premises, farms etc., a charge is made for work done and the sum of £68 was recovered in this connection. The methods used in rodent destruction are those currently recommended by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, and co-operation is maintained with the Divisional Rodent Officer of that Ministry and the County Agricultural Committee's Rodent Officer.

	Type of Property			Agricultural	Total
	Non-Agricultural				
	Refuse Tips & Sewage Works	Dwell- ing houses	All others (incl. business prem- ises)		
No. of Properties in District .	27	6458	245	484	7214
No. of Properties inspected ..	27	180	92	240	539
Total Inspections including Re-inspections .. ..	216	228	100	272	816
No. of Properties found to be Infested and Treated by Local Authority :					
(a) Rats .. ..	13	80	12	20	125
(b) Mice .. ..	—	21	8	2	31
Total treatments carried out including Re-treatments ..	20	112	20	25	177
No. of Block Control Schemes carried out .. ..	—	5	—	—	5

## HOUSING

New Houses Completed during the year.	With State Assistance	Unaided	Total
(a) By Local Authority .. ..	15	Nil.	15
(b) By any other Housing Authority ..	128	Nil	128
(c) By private persons .. ..	Nil.	208	208

Total number of inhabited houses in the district ..... 6,458

### UNFIT HOUSES.

Under Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957, formal action was taken in respect of 14 houses. Such action lead to the improvement of each property to bring them up to modern standards.

In addition to these, improvements were carried out and sanitary defects remedied in the case of 82 properties.

During the year 17 houses were demolished, the result of formal action taken during previous years



Action having now been completed on all the category 4 and category 5 houses, so placed as a result of a 1946 Housing Survey, a further survey was commenced towards the end of this year. The result of this second housing will indicate the deterioration, if any, of properties previously placed in category 3, which may necessitate further action under the Housing Act 1957.

### HOUSING ACTS 1949-59 — IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

The year saw the introduction of the Standard Grant, under which house owners can obtain half the cost, up to a maximum of £155, of installing five basic improvements - i.e. bath or shower, washbasin, W.C., hot water system and food store. This was designed to improve dwellings where the more ambitious Discretionary Grant was not required, and can be claimed by the applicant as a right, subject to certain conditions.

Applications were received in respect of 43 properties during the year, compared with 20 in the previous year.

The average cost per house of carrying out improvement works, as distinct from repairs, amounted to :—

Discretionary Grants	..	..	..	£1,206	9	5
Standard Grants	..	..	..	£100	0	0
				<i>Discretionary</i>	<i>Standard</i>	
				<i>Grants</i>	<i>Grants</i>	
(a) Applications submitted to Local Authority during year.	..	..		36	7	
(b) Applications rejected	..	..		—	—	
(c) Applications withdrawn	..	..		1	—	
(d) Applications approved.	..	..		35	7	
(e) Total number of applications approved in the area since inception of scheme	..	..	..	316	7	

### HOUSING CONSOLIDATION REGULATIONS 1925/32 REGULATION 31.

1.	No. of houses unfit for human habitation	..	..	..	6
2.	No. of houses where defects were remedied by informal action	..	..	..	86
3.	No. of representations made to the Council with a view to :—				
	(a) serving notices requiring the execution of work	..	..	..	14
	(b) making demolition or closing orders	..	..	..	Nil
4.	No. of notices served requiring the execution of works	..	..	..	14
5.	No. of houses rendered fit after service of formal notices	..	..	..	14
6.	No. of demolition or closing orders made	..	..	..	Nil
7.	No. of houses in respect of which an undertaking was accepted under sub-section 3 of Sec. 11 of Housing Act, 1936	..	..	..	Nil
8.	No. of houses demolished	..	..	..	17

### ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

In recent years much has been done by way of legislation and regulations, meetings of local authority representatives and officers, static and mobile exhibitions towards tackling the problem of the pollution of the atmosphere. Generally, it is agreed by all that the terms of the Clean Air Act, 1956, and Regulations should be implemented as soon as possible.

It is truly said that smoke and other air pollution recognises no boundary ; it is therefore necessary that uniform action by contiguous authorities be undertaken. In this connection the Council are considering the formation of a Smoke Control Area. The staff position in the department has not at the time of reporting permitted the undertaking of the survey.

The main source of air pollution in the district is found to be in the Eastern area where coal mines and colliery spoil banks are situated. During the last five years a deposit gauge has been sited in this area. The Analyst's report on the deposit serves to provide a useful comparison with the findings in adjoining districts.

The Council have appointed representatives to the Northumberland and Durham Local Authorities Clean Air Committee, the North Eastern Regional Advisory Committee and the Sub and Technical Committees which provide useful machinery for the discussion and formation of policy towards the general improvement of atmospheric pollution.

#### **BUILDING BYELAWS—PART IVa—SMOKE PREVENTION.**

The above byelaw, adopted by this Council in 1957, makes it obligatory to instal in a new building heating and cooking appliances which are suitably designed for burning any of the following fuels :—

- (a) Gas
- (b) Electricity
- (c) Coke or Anthracite

Exception is made in the case of furnaces to which Section 3 of the Clean Air Act, 1956 applies.

The Coal Utilisation Council Regional Office, at 18, Saville Row, Newcastle upon Tyne, where all modern approved solid fuel burning appliances are exhibited for inspection by the public, continues to provide an excellent opportunity for free advice on the selection, installation and operation of such appliances.

#### **TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS**

##### **PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, SECTION 269.**

There are five caravan sites in the district providing accommodation for thirty six caravans, the majority of which are residential. All have Town and Country Planning approval and in addition the caravans are individually licensed under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936. During the year 26 caravans were licensed. All are modern proprietary vehicles with adequate "all round" facilities.

The Council provides a regular collection of refuse.

#### **DISINFECTION OF PREMISES.**

Terminal disinfection of six dwelling houses was undertaken after cases of infectious diseases.

#### **DISINFESTATION OF PREMISES.**

Insects	..	..	..	..	12
Beetles	..	..	..	..	5
Wasps Nests	..	..	..	..	5

**FACTORIES ACT.**

There are 67 factories in the district. The following tables show the number of inspections and defects found during the period under review :-

**Inspections**

PREMISES	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(I) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities .. .. .	15	51	—	—
(II) Factories not included in (I) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .. .. .	52	59	—	—
(III) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Outworkers Premises) ..	—	—	—	—
<b>TOTAL</b> ..	67	110	—	—

**Defects Found.**

PARTICULARS	Number of Cases in which Defects were found				
	Found	Remedied	Referred		No. of cases in which pro- secutions were instituted
			To H.M.I.	By H.M.I.	
Want of Cleanliness .. ..	3	3	—	—	—
Overcrowding .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature ..	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation ..	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective Drainage of Floors	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences—					
(a) Insufficient .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or Defective	5	5	—	—	—
(c) Not Separate for Sexes..	—	—	—	—	—
Other Offences (not including Offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
<b>TOTAL</b> .. ..	8	8	—	—	—

## SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The report under this heading has been provided by the Engineer and Surveyor, Mr. G. E. Dimmack, M. I. MUn.E.,

### (a) Ponteland, Darras Hall, Woolsington Main Drainage Scheme.

The final account in respect of Contract No. 1 has been prepared, and it reveals that the amount expended on this scheme up to the 31st December, 1959 is £624,486.

The maintenance period for this contract was completed on the 15th April, 1959, and it can be stated that the scheme is functioning satisfactorily.

The Ministry of Housing and Local Government have approved the provisionally accepted tender in respect of Contract No. 2, and work on this latter contract is scheduled to commence in March, 1960.

The works included in this contract are the provision of off-site sewers to serve Newbiggin Hall, and also Kenton Bank Foot. The provision of sewers for the Village of Prestwick to drain to the site of the old sewage disposal works at Ridge Estate. These works to be replaced by a pumping station designed to pump the combined flows from Prestwick and Ridge Estate to Clickemin Bridge, and from thence to flow by gravity to the new pumping station at Eland Lane.

A short section of new sewer is to be provided from the Wheatsheaf Hotel, Woolsington to Callerton Station.

Provision is also to be made for the laying of foul sewers from Medburn to connect with the sewerage system at Western Way, Darras Hall.

(b) At the 31st December, 1959 the Council controlled 17 Sewage Treatment works as follows :—

- |                            |                             |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Belsay                  | 9. Milbourne (2 works)      |
| 2. Berwick Hill            | 10. Ogle                    |
| 3. Capheaton               | 11. Ridge Estate, Ponteland |
| 4. Dalton                  | (To be abandoned in 1960)   |
| 5. Fenwick                 | 12. Stamfordham             |
| 6. Heddon-on-the-Wall      | 13. Stannington (2 works)   |
| 7. Kirkheaton              | 14. Wallridge               |
| 8. Matfen (Standing Stone) | 15. Whalton                 |

The following table gives an indication of the mileage of various foul and surface water sewers and pumping mains that are maintained by the District Council :—



Location.	Separate Systems.		Com- bined	Pumping Mains	No. of Man- holes
	Foul	Surface Water	Lin. Yd.	Lin. Yd.	
	Length of Sewers	in			
Beslay .. ..			733		11
BERWICK HILL .. ..			467		7
BRUNTON PARK .. ..	6661	6921			232
BURN CLOSE .. ..			3220		39
Capheaton .. ..			392		6
DALTON .. ..			157		1
DARRAS HALL .. ..	21298	19419			375
DINNINGTON .. ..	9083	4936		3387	67
FENWICK .. ..	340				5
FRENCHMAN'S ROW ..			600		5
HAZLERIGG .. ..	279	500	3015		55
HEDDON-ON-THE-WALL ..		677	5415	150	91
KENTON BANK FOOT ..			2600		32
KIRKHEATON .. ..			400		16
MILBOURNE .. ..	25				1
OGLE .. ..			953		11
PONTELAND .. ..	6360	5174	4859	2803	326
STAMFORDHAM .. ..		372	3855	30	63
STANDING STONE ..	175				5
STANNINGTON .. ..			5723	727	57
WHALTON .. ..	103	103	883		12
WOOLSINGTON .. ..	386	535	11787		168
TOTALS .. ..	44710	38637	45059	7097	1585
Equivalent Mileage of each Type .. ..	25.40	21.32	25.60	4.03	
TOTAL MILEAGE OF ALL TYPES .....					76.35

(c) **Disposal of Sewage to Neighbouring Authorities.**

1. **Gosforth Urban District Council.**

854 Houses at Brunton Park and Melton Park discharge sewage to a sewer belonging to the Gosforth U.D.C. Of this total 63 new connections were made during the year.

2. **Seaton Burn Valley Joint Sewerage Board.**

The total number of premises now draining to the East and West Pumping Stations at Dinnington and from Hazlerigg and Brunswick Village, to the Longbenton U.D.C. Sewer at Seaton Burn School was 1,160 at the 31st December, 1959.

This figure represents an increase of 23 new connections during the year.

3. **Newburn Urban District Council.**

No new connections were made to the sewers draining to this Authority during the year ending 31st December, 1959.

4. **City and County of Newcastle upon Tyne.**

(i) **Brunton Park.**

389 Houses discharge by gravity to the Ouse Burn Sewer.

(ii) **Ponteland, Darras Hall, Woolsington Main Drainage.**

Sewage discharges by gravity and pumping to the head of the Corporation's Ouse Burn sewer, the present maximum rate of flow being approximately 200 cubic feet per minute.

(d) **New Works Undertaken during the Year.**

1. The Contract for the improvement and extensions to the Stanington Station Road area Sewage Disposal Works was commenced on the 8th November, 1958.

The Contractors, Messrs. Kendall Cross Limited, Ponteland, largely completed the works during 1959, but we were considerably delayed in effecting the final completion due to the non-delivery of certain valves and penstocks.

At the end of the year the contract was approximately 90% completed.

2. The construction of the new sewerage and sewage disposal works to serve the Village of Fenwick was completed during the year, and these works are functioning satisfactorily.
3. The existing unsatisfactory disposal plant serving the Village of Dalton was abandoned and a new septic tank, filter and humus tank was installed, and this is functioning satisfactorily.

## SUMMARY OF WORK EFFECTED.

## PRIVY CONVERSIONS.

There have been 38 conversions of privies to the water carriage system at the following places :—

East Trewick Farm House	..	..	..	1
" " " Cotts.	..	..	..	2
Catraw Farm Cottages	..	..	..	3
Beecroft, Woolsington	..	..	..	1
Robsheugh Farm Cottages	..	..	..	2
3, Bridge End, Stamfordham	..	..	..	1
Heatherslaw Farm House	..	..	..	1
Low Hall Farm Cottage	..	..	..	1
Brenkley Farm Cottages	..	..	..	2
Collingwood Cottages	..	..	..	3
Holly Tree Cottage, Shotton Edge	..	..	..	1
Old Inn, Heugh	..	..	..	1
Sandyway Heads Farm	..	..	..	1
No. 1 Stone Cottage, Prestwick Road End	..	..	..	1
Forge Cottage, Shilvington	..	..	..	1
West Farm Cottages, Middle Brunton	..	..	..	2
Whitchester Farm Cottage	..	..	..	1
Robsheugh Farm House	..	..	..	1
The Spinney Bungalow, Stannington	..	..	..	1
Town House, Heddon	..	..	..	1
Frolic Farm Cottage, Heddon	..	..	..	1
2, Clayton Terrace	..	..	..	1
Crag Cottage, Ingoe	..	..	..	1
West House Farm Cottage, Ponteland	..	..	..	1
East & West Cotts., Dissington	..	..	..	2
Dentre Cottage, North Dissington	..	..	..	1
Heddon Steads, West Heddon	..	..	..	1
No's. 1 & 2, Blue Row, Heddon-on-the-Wall	..	..	..	2

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Of the 38 conversions, 3 were assisted under the provisions of Section 47 of the Public Health Act 1936 under which the Council paid not more than half of the reasonable cost of the work. The remaining 35 were carried out as part of the improvements of the dwelling under the Housing Acts, 1949/59

	No. of Inspections during yr.	No. of defects or Contra- ventions of Bye-Laws	No. of Informal Notices served	Defects Remedied by Informal Action	No. of Satutory Notices Served
<b>HOUSING—</b>					
Structural defects ..		194	124	95	—
Defective Food Store ..	618	36	36	29	—
Dampness ..		150	131	117	—
Overcrowding ..		1	1	1	—
<b>WATER SUPPLY—</b>					
Insufficient ..	31	5	5	5	—
Unsatisfactory ..	16	4	4	—	—
<b>DRAINAGE—</b>					
Insufficient ..	120	41	41	36	—
Defective ..		21	21	21	—
<b>SANITARY CONVENIENCE—</b>					
Insufficient ..		26	26	26	—
Defective ..	71	10	10	10	—
Food Premises ..	603	6	—	6	—
Dairies and Milk Samples ..	68	—	—	—	—
Slaughter Houses ..	814	3	—	3	—
Tents, Vans, etc. ..	130	—	—	—	—
Factories and Workplaces ..	110	8	—	8	—
Insanitary Ashpits and Receptacles ..	40	40	—	37	—
Smoke Nuisances ..	81	3	3	3	—
	2702	548	402	397	—



## CONCLUSION

To the Health and Sanitary Works Committee under the Chairmanship of Councillor J. Wilson, and Dr. M. Hopper, the Medical Officer of Health, I express my thanks for the support rendered to me throughout the year, and to all other Chief and other Officials for their co-operation.

I also record my appreciation of the most satisfactory manner in which the duties of the department have been carried out by Mr. J. Taylor, Mr. R. Hardy, Mr. J. Jobson and the clerical work by Mrs. D. McGregor and Mrs. J. Hetherington.

ERIC WM. STRACHAN,

Chief Public Health Inspector and  
Cleansing Superintendent.











